

07-13-00
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A
Re-issue

PATENT APPLICATIONS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PATENTS, TRADEMARKS & COPYRIGHTS

12 July 2000
(express mail)

jc542 U.S. PTO
09/615342
07/12/00

Re: US **Utility** Patent Application

Title: **INFANT EYE TRAINER FOR A BABY BOTTLE**

Inventor: **Richard Parisi**

Filing/Patent pending date: **12 July 2000**

Attorney docket no: **RP-1R**

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks:

Enclosed for filing please find the following:

1. Original Patent Specification
2. Copy of Drawing(s)
3. Original Declaration and Power of Attorney
4. Small Entity Declaration
5. Original Certified Copy of Abstract of Title
6. Check for Filing Fee

a. please charge any deficiency to my deposit account 500,716

7. Stamped self-addressed postcard
8. Informational disclosure statement

An offer is hereby made to surrender the original patent document.

Please indicate on enclosed postcard the application serial number and mail this pre-paid postcard to acknowledge receipt of this transmittal.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

encl.
MIK/ms

Michael I. Kroll

IN THE APPLICATION

FOR THE REISSUE OF US PATENT S/N 5,880,811

of

RICHARD PARISI

attorney docket no.: RP-1R

for an

INFANT EYE TRAINER FOR A BABY BOTTLE

filed with

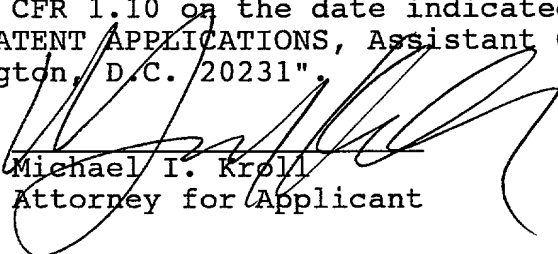
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Date of Deposit 12 July 2000

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Michael I. Kröll
Attorney for Applicant

09615342-071200

SECTOR

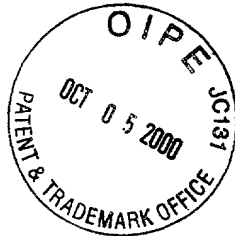
FORMALITIES LETTER



OC000000005281420

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark OfficeAddress: COMMISSIONER OF PATENT AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/615,342	07/12/2000	Richard Parisi	RP-1R

Michael I kroll
171 Stillwell Lane
Syosset, NY 11791

Date Mailed: 07/31/2000

NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF REISSUE APPLICATION

Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this reissue application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- Assignee's statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) establishing ownership of the patent is missing. 37 CFR 1.172 requires that all assignees consenting to the reissue application establish their ownership interest in the patent by filing in the reissue application a statement in accordance with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

A copy of this notice MUST be returned with the reply.

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Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY

09/615,342-071200

INFANT EYE TRAINER FOR A BABY BOTTLE

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation-in-part of my U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/578,462, filed 26 Dec. 1995, entitled "Infant Eye Trainer for a Baby Bottle," now abandoned.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The instant invention relates generally to baby bottle holders and more specifically it relates to infant eye trainers and visually stimulating devices for a baby bottle.

Studies have shown that the most crucial developmental months for an infant is from birth to about six months. Muscles and senses are developing rapidly, and during that period, you want to make sure they are developing correctly. That is why it is important to keep the infant's eyes straight, while feeding them from a baby bottle. Often, most infants have nothing to focus their eyes on, so they look at the bottle. By doing this, both eyes naturally cross, due to the position the bottle is in. If the infant does this often enough, in those precious developing stages, there is a possibility that one or both eyes can be slightly off centered permanently.

2. Description of the Prior Art

Numerous baby bottle holders have been provided in the art. For example, U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,295,293 (Baclit), 4,320,883 (Bass), 5,083,732 (Akamine) and 5,129,610 (Campbell) all are illustrative of such art. While these devices may be suitable for the particular purpose to which they address, they would not be as suitable for the purposes of the present invention as heretofore described.

U.S. Pat. No. 4,295,293 (Baclit, Paul S.), entitled "Nursing Bottle Holder," discloses a baby bottle holder including a main support member in the form of a shell which fits over the body of the infant when the infant is lying down. An upright bottle support removably mounted on the main support for mounting the bottle. This bottle support has a caricature thereon such as of an animal. A bottle carriage on the bottle support is pivoted between an active position in which an infant feeds, and an inactive position in which it is inclined away from the infant's face, and has a weight for moving it to an inactive position when the bottle is released. The bottle support includes a music box which is activated by the bottle carriage when the latter is moved to an inactive position. The main support while carrying the bottle support is demountably positionable on a pull-toy, such as a buggy which, together as a combination toy can be enjoyed by an older child.

U.S. Pat. No. 4,320,883 (Bass, Wayne E.), entitled "Positional Toy/Bottle Holder," discloses a positionable support for a baby bottle comprising interchangeable head members with openings representing the mouth of the characterization which the head represents. The opening contains a groove or channel for receiving and holding a resilient ring member which grasps and firmly holds a baby bottle. An extension arm supports the head member at a distance spaced from the base member. The extension arm, head and base member attachments are pivotable. The head member is removable from the extension arm pivot connection. A novel valve is included to prevent liquid from flowing from the nipple attached end of the baby bottle from the effect of gravity on the liquid therein.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The novel features which are considered characteristic for the invention are set forth in the appended claims. The invention itself, however, both as to its construction and its method of operation, together with additional objects and advantages thereof, will be best understood from the following description of the specific embodiments when read and understood in connection with the accompanying drawings. Attention is called to the fact, however, that the drawings are illustrative only, and that changes may be made in the specific construction illustrated and described within the scope of the appended claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES

Various other objects, features and attendant advantages of the present invention will become more fully appreciated as the same becomes better understood when considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which like reference characters designate the same or similar parts throughout the several views.

FIG. 1 is a perspective view showing the instant invention in use when an infant is feeding with a baby bottle.

FIG. 2 is an enlarged front perspective view of the instant invention.

FIG. 3 is a chart illustrating the approximate focal length between the infant's eyes and the viewable member on the instant invention, and how it varies with the size of the bottle used.

FIG. 4 is a side perspective view of an infant feeding with a standard 4 ounce baby bottle utilizing the instant invention.

FIG. 5 is a side perspective view of an infant feeding with a standard 8 ounce baby bottle utilizing the instant invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Turning now descriptively to the drawings, in which similar reference characters denote similar elements throughout the several views, the Figures illustrate the infant eye trainer for a baby bottle of the present invention. With regard to the reference numerals used, the following numbering is used throughout the various drawing figures.

FIGS. 1 through 5 illustrate an infant eye trainer/attracting device 10 for a baby bottle 12 comprising a structure 14 for gripping the baby bottle 12. An extension member 16 extends from the gripping structure 14. An ornament 18 on a distal free end of the extension member 16, will help keep the eyes 20 of an infant 22 focused in a straight manner towards the ornament 18, thereby preventing the eyes 20 of the infant 22 from crossing while nursing with the baby bottle 12.

The gripping structure 14 is preferably a flexible split clamp ring 26 that fits about a body portion 28 of the baby bottle 12. The flexible split clamp ring 26 can include mating hook and loop pile fastener material in the split portion 32 thereof, so as to hold the flexible split clamp ring 26 securely to the body portion 28 of the baby bottle 12. When utilizing hook and loop pile fastener material in the split portion, it is preferred that the clamp ring be split at an angle such that the exposed ends of the clamp ring overlap each other with facing and overlapping surfaces, the facing surfaces having mating hook and loop piles 32a and 32b respectively to hold the clamp ring securely to the body portion of the bottle.

The extension member 16 is preferably an elongated flat neck 34. The extension member 16 serves to orient the ornament 18 directly in front of the infant's eyes 20 at an appropriate distance.

It is generally agreed that newborns and infants can focus best at distances from about 6 to about 12 inches from the eye, preferably from about 7 to about 10 inches. For example, Compton's Interactive Encyclopedia (Compton's NewMedia, Inc., 1994, 1995) states that newborn babies focus most easily at a distance of about 10 inches. In *The Well Baby* (Mike Samuels, M.D., 1991) it is stated that the "newborn focuses best at a distance of 7½ inches." In *Complete Baby and Child Care* (Dr. Miriam Stoppard, 1995), it is stated that a newborn "baby can see clearly up to a distance of 8-10 inches". Accordingly, it is preferred that the ornament should be oriented this far from the eyes of the infant.

A standard 8 ounce baby bottle is about 8 inches long. With these bottles, the extension member can extend straight up from the gripping member (perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the bottle). As long as the gripping member is placed within the bottom two inches of the bottle, the ornament will be maintained at an appropriate distance for viewing by the infant, about 6 to 8 inches. Alternatively, the extension member for these bottles can extend up to about 2 inches past said gripping means, measured along an axis parallel to the longitudinal axis of the bottle, so that the gripping means can be placed anywhere along the bottom half (4 inches) of the bottle.

A standard 4 ounce baby bottle, however, is only about 4 inches long. With these bottles, the extension member must necessarily extend at least about 2 inches past said gripping means, measured along an axis parallel to the longitudinal axis of the bottle, so that the ornament is at least 6 inches from the infant's eyes. An extension of between about 2 and about 5 inches allows the invention to be utilized with virtually all baby bottles from about 4 to about 8 inches in length, while maintaining a proper focal distance from the infant, about 6 to about 12 inches. For general use, an extension of from about 3 to about 4 inches is preferable. It can be readily appreciated that by sliding 42 the gripping means 14 along the bottle 12, the user can easily adjust the orientation of the ornament 18 to an appropriate distance from the eyes 20 of the infant 22.

The ornament 18 is visually stimulating and is preferably a flat head 36. It is well known that newborns and infants prefer to look at generally round shapes with clear edges, such as, for example, faces, nipples or targets. Accordingly, the ornament should be generally round with clear edges. For example, a cartoon type face 38 can be placed upon the flat head 36. The ornament 18 can further include a pair of loop ears 40 on a top portion of the flat head 36.

In its preferred form, the gripping structure 14, the extension member 16 and the ornament 18 are integral and fabricated out of the same kind of material 42. The material 42 is preferably either plastic or rubber.

The infant eye trainer 10 for a baby bottle 12 optionally includes a spring portion, to make the elongated flat neck 34 more flexible. This causes the ornament 18 to move back and forth to attract the attention of the eyes 20 of the infant 22 thereto.

To use the infant eye trainer 10, the following steps should be taken.

1. Open the split portion 32 of the flexible split clamp ring 26.
2. Slip the flexible split clamp ring 26 over the body portion 28 of the baby bottle 12, with the cartoon type face 38 on the flat head 36 facing the nipple on the baby bottle 12.
3. Move the flexible split clamp ring 26 along the length of the body portion 28 of the baby bottle 12 to a proper position, i.e. so that the ornament 18 is from about 6 to about 12 inches from the eye 20 of the infant 22.
4. Allow the infant 22 to feed with the baby bottle 12 oriented so that the ornament 18 is directly in from of the eyes 20 of the infant 22 so the infant 22 can focus directly on the cartoon type face 38.

It will be understood that each of the elements described above, or two or more together, may also find a useful application in other types of applications differing from the type described above. For example, the instant invention may find utility as a simple infant attracting device for providing visual stimulus to the infant.

While the invention has been illustrated and described as embodied in an infant eye trainer for a baby bottle, it is not intended to be limited to the details shown, since it will be understood that various omissions, modifications, substitutions and changes in the forms and details of the formulation illustrated and in its operation can be made by those skilled in the art without departing in any way from the spirit of the present invention.

Without further analysis, the foregoing will so fully reveal the gist of the present invention that others can, by applying current knowledge, readily adapt it for various applications without omitting features that, from the standpoint of prior art, fairly constitute essential characteristics of this invention.

What is claimed as new and desired to be protected by Letters Patent is set forth in the appended claims:

1. An infant eye trainer for a baby bottle supported by said baby bottle comprising:

- a) means for gripping the baby bottle comprising a flexible split clamp ring fitted about a body portion of the baby bottle, said ring being split at an angle such that the exposed ends overlap each other, said exposed ends having mating hook and loop pile fastener for holding said ring securely on said baby bottle;
- b) an elongated flat neck extension member extending from said gripping means; and
- c) a visually stimulating ornament having a flat head shape generally round in shape with clear edges on a distal free end of said extension member, said ornament being positioned about 7 to about 10 inches from the eyes of said baby, said gripping means, extension

member and ornament being integral and fabricated out of the same kind of material.

2. An infant eye trainer for a baby bottle as recited in claim 1, wherein said ornament includes a cartoon type face placed upon said flat head.

3. An infant eye trainer for a baby bottle as recited in claim 2, wherein said ornament further includes a pair of loop ears on a top portion of said flat head.

4. An infant eye trainer for a baby bottle as recited in claim 1, wherein said material is plastic.

5. An infant eye trainer for a baby bottle as recited in claim 1, wherein said material is rubber.

6. The method of training the eyes of an infant to help keep the eyes of the infant focused in a straight manner to prevent the eyes of the infant from crossing during bottle feeding comprising the steps of:

- a) placing on said bottle a flexible split clamp ring split at an angle such that the exposed ends overlap each other, said exposed ends having mating hook and loop pile fastener for holding said ring securely on said baby bottle, an elongated flat neck extension member extending from said gripping means, and a visually stimulating ornament having a flat head shape generally round in shape with clear edges on a distal free end of said extension member, said gripping means, extension member and ornament being integral and fabricated out of the same kind of material; and
- b) positioning said split ring on said baby bottle so that said ornament is about 7 to about 10 inches from the eyes of said baby.

* * * * *

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7. An infant eye trainer selectively and releasably secured to a baby bottle, said infant eye trainer comprising:

- a) means for releasably gripping the baby bottle;
- b) an elongated member connected to and extending from said gripping means; and
- c) a visually stimulating ornament connected to an end of said elongated member opposite said gripping means and held at a distance from eyes of an infant while feeding from the bottle by said elongated member whereby said visually stimulating ornament is visible to the infant.

8. The infant eye trainer as claimed in claim 7, wherein said elongated member extends substantially 2 to substantially 5 inches from said gripping means.

9. The infant eye trainer as claimed in claim 8, wherein the distance at which said elongated member extends is measured along an axis parallel to a longitudinal axis of the bottle.

10. The infant eye trainer as claimed in claim 7, wherein said visually stimulating ornament is positioned substantially 7 to 10 inches from the eyes of the baby when said gripping means is gripping the baby bottle.

11. The infant eye trainer as claimed in claim 7, wherein said gripping means, elongated member and visually stimulating ornament are integrally formed from a similar type of material.

12. The infant eye trainer as claimed in claim 7, wherein said visually stimulating ornament is a flat, generally round head shape.

13. The infant eye trainer as claimed in claim 12, wherein said flat, generally round head shape has clear edges.

14. The infant eye trainer as claimed in claim 13, wherein said visually stimulating ornament includes a cartoon type face positioned on said flat, generally round head shape.

15. The infant eye trainer as claimed in claim 14, wherein said visually stimulating ornament further includes a pair of loop ears on a top portion of said flat head.

16. The infant eye trainer as claimed in claim 7, wherein said material is plastic.

17. The infant eye trainer as claimed in claim 7, wherein said material is rubber.

[57]

ABSTRACT

An infant eye trainer (10) for a baby bottle (12) comprising a structure (14) for gripping the baby bottle (12). An extension member (16) extends from the gripping structure (14). A visually attractive ornament (18) on a distal free end of the extension member (16), will help keep the eyes (20) of an infant (22) focused in a straight manner towards the ornament (18), thereby preventing the eyes (20) of the infant (22) from crossing when the infant (22) is nursing with the baby bottle (12).

6 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

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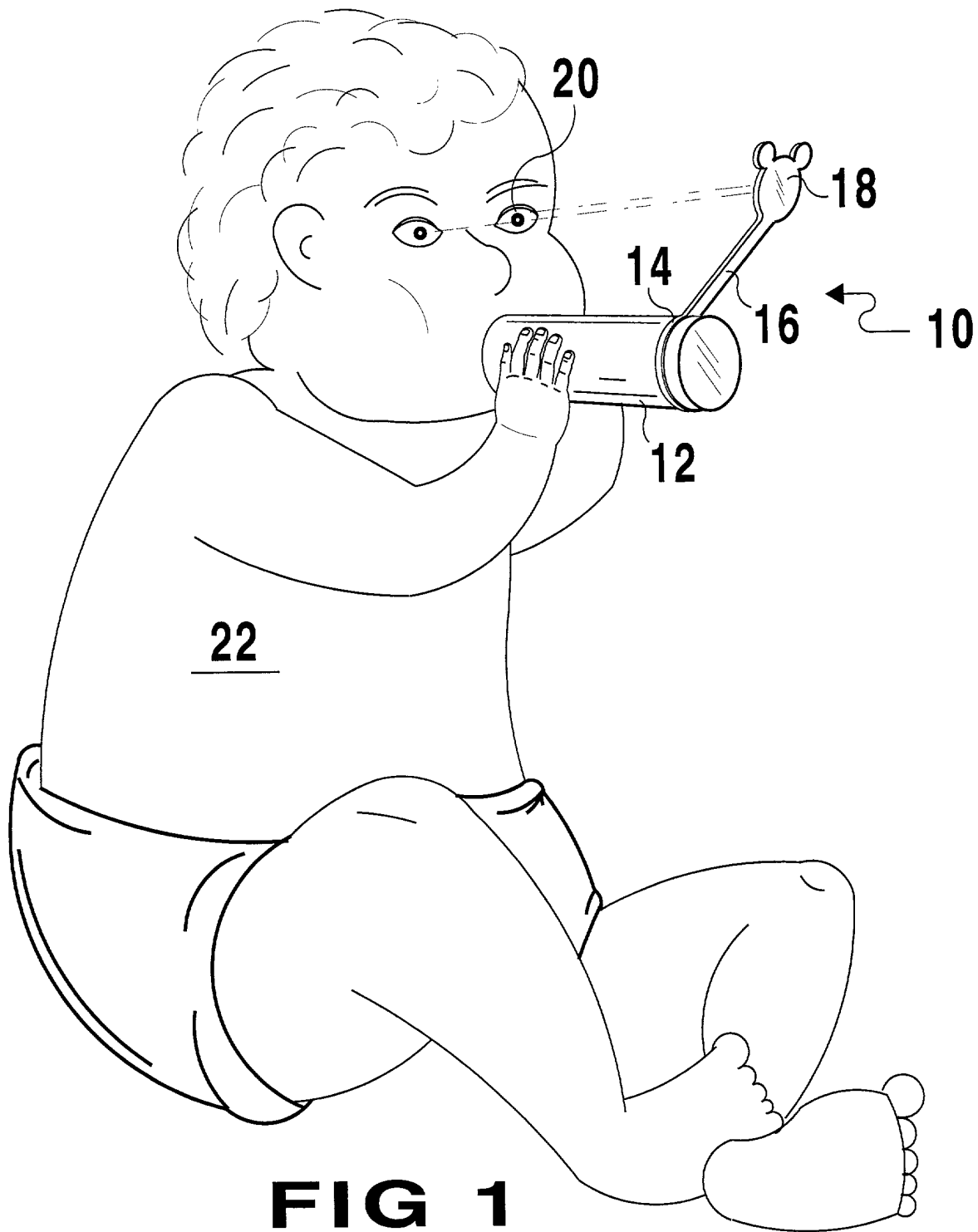


FIG 1

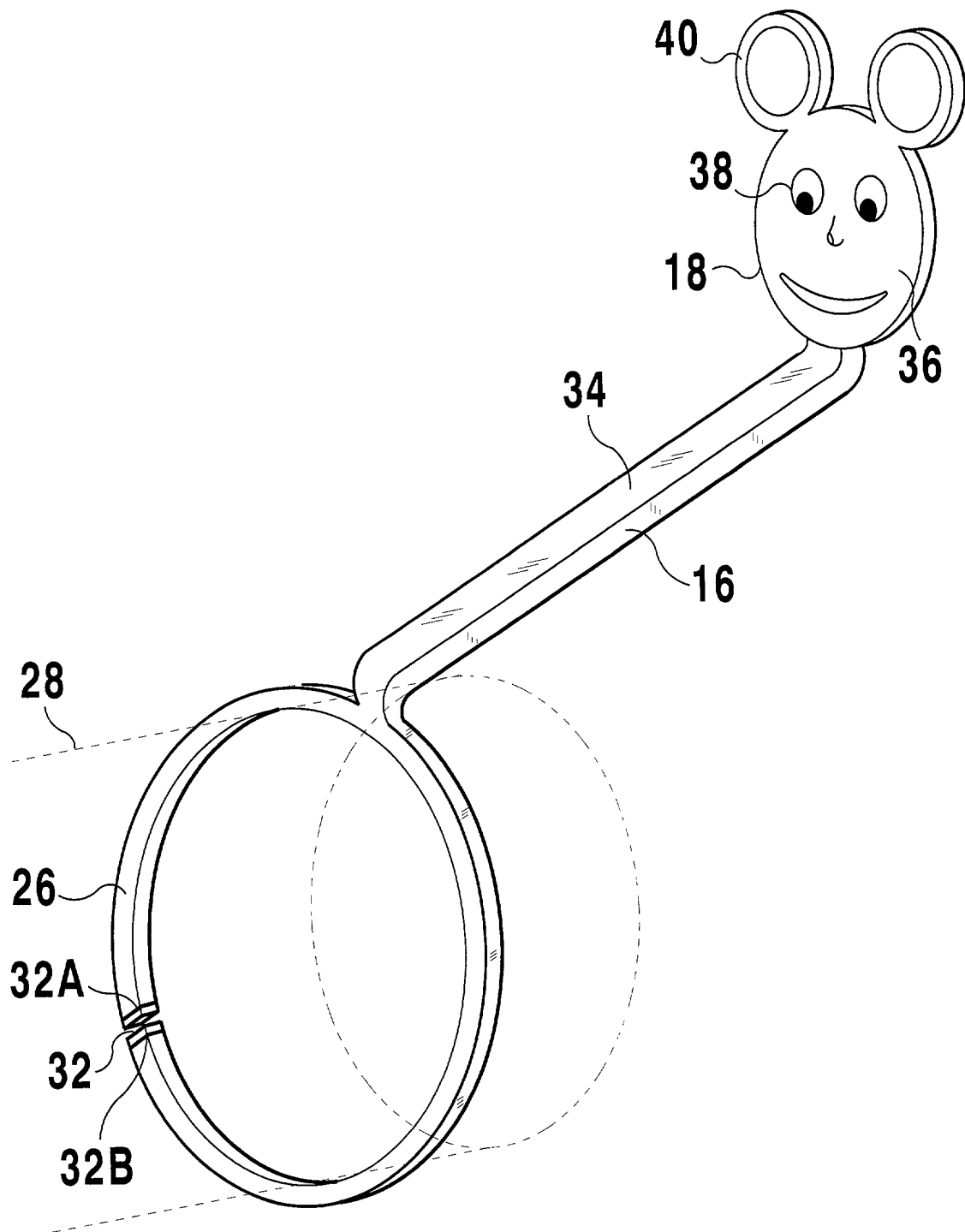


FIG 2

46	'A' (INCHES)	'B' (BOTTLE SIZE - OZ)	44
50	8 1/2	4	48
54	12	8	52

FIG 3

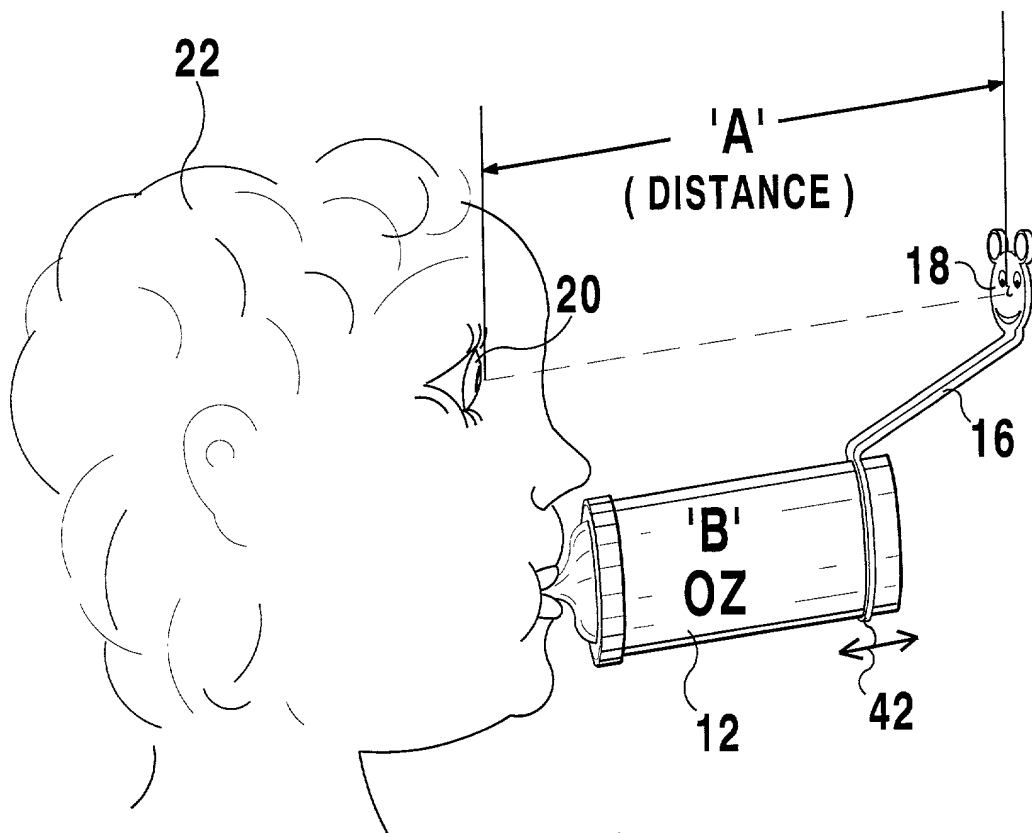


FIG 4

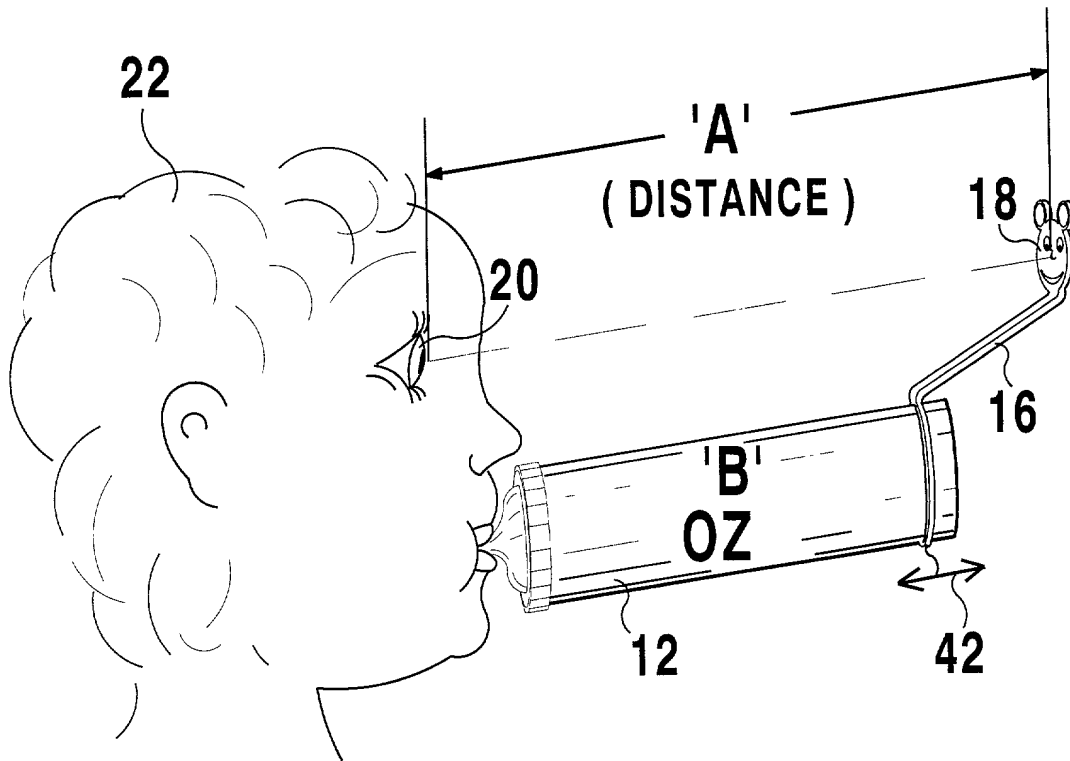


FIG 5

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
for reissue of US patent s/n: 5,880,811
attorney docket no.: RP-1R

As a below named inventor, I declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated next to my name. I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a reissue of the patent is sought on the invention entitled:

INFANT EYE TRAINER FOR A BABY BOTTLE

the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor I hereby appoint the following attorney to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Michael I. Kroll, Registration number: 26,755

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

**Michael I. Kroll, telephone no. 516-367-7777
171 Stillwell Lane, Syosset, New York 11791**

Inventor's name: Last: **Parisi** First: **Richard** Middle:
Residence(city): **Oceanside** State: **New York** Citizenship: **USA**
Post Office address: **2660 Harrison Avenue; Oceanside, New York 11572**

The subject of this reissue patent application, namely US patent s/n 5,880,811 is partially inoperative or invalid by reason of the patentee claiming more or less than he had the right to claim in the patent, the insufficiency in the claims being that flexible split clamp 26 should have been claimed more broadly and was too limiting as claimed. The claims of the patent are too narrow and first became apparent on review of the claims of the issued patent. The narrowness of the claims arose without any deceptive intention on the part of applicant. Accordingly the newly presented claims herein are broadened to overcome the narrowness.

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Signature of Inventor

Richard Parisi

Date: *6/5/00*

09615342-071200

Applicant and Inventor: **Richard Parisi**
Serial or Patent No.: filed herewith
Filed or Issued: filed herewith
Title: **INFANT EYE TRAINER FOR A BABY BOTTLE**
Attorney docket no.: RP-1R

VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention described in the specification filed herewith as listed above.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9 (e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed herein: (x) no such person, concern or organization

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Filed by: **Michael I. Kroll**, attorney for applicant;
Registration # **26,755**; 171 Stillwell Lane;
Syosset, New York 11791; tele # 516-367-7777

Signature of Inventor: Richard Parisi

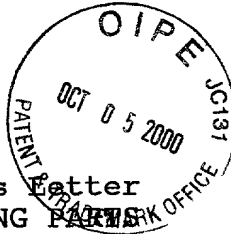
Date 6-15-00

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent application serial number: 09/615,342
Applicant: Parisi, Richard
Filing/Receipt date: 12 July 2000
Title: INFANT EYE TRAINER FOR A BABY BOTTLE
Batch number: --
Examiner: --
Group art unit: --
Response to Formalities Letter
(NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS
OF REISSUE APPLICATION)
dated: 31 July 2000
Attorney docket number: PR-1R



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Washington, D.C. 20231

Attn: Customer Service Center
Initial Patent Examining Division

COMMUNICATION

With reference to above please note the above referenced application has not been assigned and an original certified document (copy enclosed) indicating same was filed with the application.

Enclosed please find copy of:

- Formalities Letter (NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF REISSUE APPLICATION) dated 31 July 2000
- two page assignment (original certified copy was filed with the initial application on 12 July 2000)

If any fee is due please charge deposit account 500,716.

Dated: 02 October 2000
171 Stillwell Lane
Syosset, New York 11791
tele # 516-367-7777

Respectfully submitted,

by: Michael F. Kroll
Attorney for Applicant

encl. a & b above

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE PRIORITY MAIL CERTIFICATE

"Priority Mail" mailing label number 0310 2990 0003 6782 6796
Date of Deposit 02 October 2000

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Priority Mail" on the date indicated above and is addressed to "BOX ISSUE FEE; c/o TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700; US PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231."

Michael F. Kroll
Attorney for Applicant

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